

CLAIMS

- Sub 1* 1. A method for processing user programming request, comprising the steps of:
detecting a user request;
providing an entry for a time period based user spending limit, in respond to the
5 user request;
receiving the entry; and
tracking user spending during the time period.
- Sub 2* 2. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of providing a selection for a rolling
10 time period.
- Sub 3* 3. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of generating a user warning when
the user spending exceeds the time period based user spending limit entered.
- Sub 4* 4. The method of claim 3 further comprising the step of allowing the user to override the
user spending limit.
- Sub 5* 5. A method for processing user programming request, comprising the steps of:
detecting a user request;
20 providing a plurality of spending limit entries each corresponding to a time period,
in respond to the user request;
receiving one or more of the selected spending limit entries; and
tracking user spending during each of the selected time period.
- 25 6. The method of claim 5 further comprising performing a check to see if a spending limit
for a shorter time period is greater than a spending limit entry for a longer time period; and
providing a user warning if otherwise.
- 30 7. The method of claim 5 further comprising the step of tracking all applicable user
spending during the selected time periods.
- Sub 8* 8. The method of claim 5 further comprising the step of providing the option of counting
the selected time period on a rolling basis.

9. A system for processing user programming request, comprising the steps of:

a user controller for entering a user request; and

means for providing an entry for a time period based user spending limit, in

5 respond to the user request; said means receiving the entry and providing user spending tracking during the time period.

10. A system for processing user programming request, comprising the steps of:

a user controller for detecting a user request; and

10 means for providing a plurality of spending limit entries each corresponding to a time period, in respond to the user request; said means receiving one or more of the selected spending limit entries and tracking user spending during each of the selected time period.